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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PREL](#) [KDEM](#) [KSUM](#) [EAID](#) [KPAO](#) [BEXP](#) [AR](#)

SUBJECT: ARGENTINA SEEKS U.S PARTICIPATION AT FIFTH HEMISPHERIC
SUMMIT OF MAYORS

1. (SBU) This is an action request for WHA/PDA and
USDOC/USFCS/OIO/WH. Please see para 5 for request.

2. (SBU) CDA Kelly attended a June 22 MFA briefing for all Western
Hemisphere missions on the Fifth Hemispheric Summit of Mayors and
Local Officials to be held, September 2-4 in Mar del Plata,
Argentina. During the briefing, Foreign Minister Taiana explained
that the summit's main objective is to provide a forum for municipal
leaders from the Americas to discuss common policy challenges and
new trends in public administration. In particular, the summit will
touch on the following themes: citizen security, municipal
diplomacy, citizen participation, social inclusion, poverty
reduction, effective city planning, financing local investment,
decentralization and empowerment in Latin America, improving the
quality of public services, and city integration/urban transit.

3. (SBU) FM Taiana added that the summit would also feature a trade
fair allowing companies from throughout the Americas to showcase
their technologies and services to the assembled municipal
authorities from all over the hemisphere. The conference is being
organized by the Latin American Federation of Cities,
Municipalities, and Local Governmental Organizations and the
Argentine Municipalities Federation (AMF), and consulting firm
IC-Argentina.

GOA asks for Help to Bolster U.S. Summit Participation

4. (SBU) After the FM's briefing, both FM Taiana and AMF President
Julio Cesar Pereyra privately told CDA that they were interested in
attracting U.S. participation in this year's summit. Pereyra noted
that past summits had not attracted significant U.S. participation.
He indicated that he will soon travel to Ohio and Florida to recruit
mayors to attend the Summit. CDA offered to meet with AMF
executives to learn more about opportunities available for U.S.
companies during the Summit and discuss how the Embassy can support
the initiative. Pereyra agreed, and a meeting has been scheduled
for July 8.

5. (SBU) Action request: The Summit may offer U.S. firms the
opportunity to showcase their innovative consulting and technology
solutions and services to help local governments improve performance
in the face of complex urban challenges. It also provides an
excellent opportunity to bring down a speaker who specializes in
urban planning and development or public administration. Finally,
the summit may also provide an excellent opportunity to promote
sister-city relationships between U.S., Latin American, and
Caribbean cities. Post would appreciate guidance from the
Department and our USDOC colleagues on other ways we can support
this worthwhile initiative. Further information about the Summit
can be accessed at: <http://www.cumbredealcaldes.com>.

KELLY